

Florida Medicaid/Long-Term Care (LTC): Guidance for Delivering PPEC Services in Home Settings During the COVID-19 State of Emergency

The Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) is committed to ensuring continuity of care for all recipients due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. As part of this effort and in response to center temporary closures, the Agency is temporarily authorizing Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care (PPEC) centers to deliver services to Florida Medicaid recipients in the home setting. The purpose of this alert is to provide guidance on what services can be delivered, by whom, and how to complete claims.

The flexibilities granted in this Alert are effective March 27, 2020 until further notice.

What PPEC Services Can Be Delivered at Home?

Florida Medicaid will reimburse PPEC providers for the following services delivered in the recipient's home:

- Intermittent skilled nursing services
- Personal care services
- Private duty nursing services
- Respiratory therapy services

Who Can Deliver PPEC Services in the Home?

PPEC centers must ensure that only their employed or contracted staff, practicing within the scope of their license or training, deliver services in the home setting.

Prior Authorization Requirements

PPEC providers do not need additional prior authorization to deliver services in recipients' homes and can render services as originally authorized by the Agency's contracted quality improvement organization, eQHealth Solutions.

Billing and Documentation Guidelines

For reimbursement, PPEC centers must continue to use the procedure codes listed on the PPEC [fee schedule](#). When delivering services, PPEC providers must maintain logs documenting the time they arrived at a recipient's home and when they departed. In addition, the logs must indicate the service(s) delivered and that services were delivered in the home setting. The arrival and departure times in the provider logs must be consistent with the rate reimbursed for that day (partial or full).

Additional Reminders

Prior to providing services in the home, staff should also be reacquainted the following regulatory requirements for services delivered in a PPEC (which must be adhered to when delivering services in the home setting).

Infection Control

59A-13.005 Administration and Management

- The center administrator must develop and implement infection control policies and procedures. These policies and procedures must be included in the PPEC center's policy manual.

59A-13.020 Infection Control

- Isolation procedures must be used to prevent cross-infections (in the case of more than one child).
- Staff must wash their hands after direct contact with each child, using appropriate hand-washing techniques to prevent the spread of infection from one child to another.
- PPEC center staff members suspected of having a communicable disease must not return to the PPEC center until the signs and symptoms related to the communicable disease are no longer present, as evidenced by a written physician's statement.

Parent Education

59A-13.013

- Staff must provide a comprehensive orientation to acquaint the parent or guardian with the philosophy and services will be provided at the time of the child's admission to the PPEC center.

Nursing Interventions

59A-13.010 Nursing Services

- Registered nurse staff must provide educational services to increase the parent's or guardian's confidence and competence in caring for the child with special needs; assistance to facilitate coping with the effects of chronic illness on the child and family and support effective relationships among siblings and the ill child; interventions to foster normal development and psychosocial adaptation.

For more information related to COVID-19 from the Agency, please visit:

<https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/>.